

**Assembly Bill No. 2799**

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Passed the Assembly    August 11, 1998

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*Chief Clerk of the Assembly*

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Passed the Senate    August 6, 1998

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*Secretary of the Senate*

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This bill was received by the Governor this \_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 1998, at \_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_M.

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*Private Secretary of the Governor*

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_

An act to amend Section 290.4 of, and to add Section 3003.5 to, the Penal Code, relating to sex offenders.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2799, Olberg. Sex offenders.

Existing law requires the Department of Justice to provide a CD-ROM or other electronic medium containing specified information regarding persons required to register as sex offenders, and to distribute the CD-ROM or other electronic medium to certain law enforcement agencies on a quarterly basis.

This bill would require the department to update and distribute the CD-ROM on a monthly basis.

Existing law prohibits returning an inmate who is released on parole to a location within 35 miles of the actual residence of a victim of, or a witness to, any specified violent felony or a felony in which the defendant inflicts great bodily injury on any person other than an accomplice, if the victim or witness has requested additional distance in the placement of the inmate on parole, and if the Board of Prison Terms or the Department of Corrections finds that there is a need to protect the life, safety, or well-being of a victim or witness.

This bill would prohibit any person released on parole after having served a term of imprisonment in state prison for an offense requiring registration as a sex offender, from living in a single family dwelling, as defined, with any other person also required to register as a sex offender during the period of parole, unless those persons are related by blood, marriage, or adoption.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 290.4 of the Penal Code is amended to read:



290.4. (a) (1) The Department of Justice shall continually compile information as described in paragraph (2) regarding any person required to register under Section 290 for a conviction of Section 207 or 209 committed with the intent to violate Section 261, 286, 288, 288a, or 289; Section 220, except assault to commit mayhem; Section 243.4, provided that the offense is a felony; paragraph (1), (2), (3), (4), or (6) of subdivision (a) of Section 261; Section 264.1; Section 266, provided that the offense is a felony; Section 266c, provided that the offense is a felony; Section 266j; Section 267; paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 286, provided that the offense is a felony; paragraph (2) of subdivision (b), subdivision (c), (d), (f), (g), (i), (j), or (k) of Section 286; Section 288; paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 288a, provided that the offense is a felony; paragraph (2) of subdivision (b), (c), (d), (f), (g), (i), (j), or (k) of Section 288a; Section 288.5; subdivision (a), (b), (d), (e), (f), (g), or (h) of Section 289, provided that the offense is a felony; subdivision (i) or (j) of Section 289; Section 647.6; or the statutory predecessor of any of these offenses or any offense which, if committed or attempted in this state, would have been punishable as one or more of the offenses described in this section. This requirement shall not be applied to a person whose duty to register has been terminated pursuant to paragraph (5) of subdivision (d) of Section 290, or to a person who has been relieved of his or her duty to register under Section 290.5.

(2) The information shall be categorized by community of residence and ZIP Code. The information shall include the names and known aliases of the person, photograph, a physical description, gender, race, date of birth, the criminal history, and the address, including ZIP Code, in which the person resides, and any other information that the Department of Justice deems relevant, not including information that would identify the victim.

(3) The department shall operate a “900” telephone number that members of the public may call and inquire whether a named individual is listed among those



described in this subdivision. The caller shall furnish his or her first name, middle initial, and last name. The department shall ascertain whether a named person reasonably appears to be a person so listed and provide the caller with the information described in paragraph (2), except the department shall not disclose the street address or criminal history of a person listed, except to disclose the ZIP Code area in which the person resides and to describe the specific crimes for which the registrant was required to register. The department shall decide whether the named person reasonably appears to be a person listed, based upon information from the caller providing information that shall include (A) an exact street address, including apartment number, social security number, California driver's license or identification number, or birth date along with additional information that may include any of the following: name, hair color, eye color, height, weight, distinctive markings, ethnicity; or (B) any combination of at least six of the above listed characteristics if an exact birth date or address is not available. If three of the characteristics provided include ethnicity, hair color, and eye color, a seventh identifying characteristic shall be provided. Any information identifying the victim by name, birth date, address, or relation to the registrant shall be excluded by the department.

(4) (A) On or before July 1, 1997, the department shall provide a CD-ROM or other electronic medium containing the information described in paragraph (2), except the person's street address and criminal history other than the specific crimes for which the person was required to register, for all persons described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a), and shall update and distribute the CD-ROM or other electronic medium on a monthly basis to the sheriff's department in each county, municipal police departments of cities with a population of more than 200,000, and each law enforcement agency listed in subparagraph (I) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (n) of Section 290. These law enforcement agencies may obtain additional copies by purchasing a yearly



subscription to the CD-ROM or other electronic medium from the Department of Justice for a yearly subscription fee. The Department of Justice, the sheriff's departments, and the municipal police departments of cities with a population of more than 200,000 shall make, and the other law enforcement agencies may make, the CD-ROM or other electronic medium available for viewing by the public in accordance with the following: The agency may require that a person applying to view the CD-ROM or other electronic medium express an articulable purpose in order to have access thereto. The applicant shall provide identification in the form of a California driver's license or California identification card, showing the applicant to be at least 18 years of age, and shall sign a statement, on a form provided by the Department of Justice, stating that the applicant is not a registered sex offender, that he or she understands the purpose of the release of information is to allow members of the public to protect themselves and their children from sex offenders, and he or she understands it is unlawful to use information obtained from the CD-ROM or other electronic medium to commit a crime against any registrant or to engage in illegal discrimination or harassment of any registrant. The signed statement shall be maintained in a file in the designated law enforcement agency's office.

(B) The records of persons requesting to view the CD-ROM or other electronic medium are confidential, except that a copy of the applications requesting to view the CD-ROM or other electronic medium may be disclosed to law enforcement agencies for law enforcement purposes.

(C) Any information identifying the victim by name, birth date, address, or relationship to the registrant shall be excluded from the CD-ROM or other electronic medium.

(5) (A) The income from the operation of the "900" telephone number shall be deposited in the Sexual Predator Public Information Account, which is hereby established within the Department of Justice for the



purpose of the implementation of this section by the Department of Justice, including all actual and reasonable costs related to establishing and maintaining the information described in subdivision (a) and the CD-ROM or other electronic medium described in this subdivision.

(B) The moneys in the Sexual Predator Public Information Account shall consist of income from the operation of the “900” telephone number program authorized by this section, proceeds of the loan made pursuant to Section 6 of the act adding this section, and any other funds made available to the account by the Legislature. Moneys in the account shall be available to the Department of Justice upon appropriation by the Legislature for the purpose specified in subparagraph (A).

(C) When the “900” telephone number is called, a preamble shall be played before charges begin to accrue. The preamble shall run at least the length of time required by federal law and shall provide the following information:

(i) Notice that the caller’s telephone number will be recorded.

(ii) The charges for use of the “900” telephone number.

(iii) Notice that the caller is required to identify himself or herself to the operator.

(iv) Notice that the caller is required to be 18 years of age or older.

(v) A warning that it is illegal to use information obtained through the “900” telephone number to commit a crime against any registrant or to engage in illegal discrimination or harassment against any registrant.

(vi) Notice that the caller is required to have the birth date, California driver’s license or identification number, social security number, address, or other identifying information regarding the person about whom information is sought in order to achieve a positive identification of that person.



(vii) A statement that the number is not a crime hotline and that any suspected criminal activity should be reported to local authorities.

(viii) A statement that the caller should have a reasonable suspicion that a person is at risk.

(D) The Department of Justice shall expend no more than six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) per year from any moneys appropriated by the Legislature from the account.

(b) (1) Any person who uses information disclosed pursuant to this section to commit a felony shall be punished, in addition and consecutive to, any other punishment, by a five-year term of imprisonment in the state prison.

(2) Any person who, without authorization, uses information disclosed pursuant to this section to commit a misdemeanor shall be subject to, in addition to any other penalty or fine imposed, a fine of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) and not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

(c) The record of the compilation of offender information on each CD-ROM or other electronic medium distributed pursuant to this section shall be used only for law enforcement purposes and the public safety purposes specified in this section and Section 290. This record shall not be distributed or removed from the custody of the law enforcement agency that is authorized to retain it. Information obtained from this record shall be disclosed to a member of the public only as provided in this section or Section 290, or any other statute expressly authorizing it.

Any person who copies, distributes, discloses, or receives this record or information from it, except as authorized by law, is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not to exceed six months or by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both that imprisonment and fine. This subdivision shall not apply to a law enforcement officer who makes a copy as part of his or her official duties in the course of a criminal investigation, court case, or as otherwise

authorized by subdivision (n) of Section 290. This subdivision shall not prohibit copying information by handwriting.

Notwithstanding Section 6254.5 of the Government Code, disclosure of information pursuant to this section is not a waiver of exemptions under Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 6250) of Title 1 of Division 7 of the Government Code and does not affect other statutory restrictions on disclosure in other situations.

(d) Unauthorized removal or destruction of the CD-ROM or other electronic medium from the offices of any law enforcement agency is a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not to exceed one year, or by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both that imprisonment and fine.

(e) (1) A person is authorized to use information disclosed pursuant to this section only to protect a person at risk.

This section shall not affect authorized access to, or use of, information pursuant to, among other provisions, Sections 11105 and 11105.3 of this code, Section 226.55 of the Civil Code, Sections 777.5 and 14409.2 of the Financial Code, Sections 1522.01 and 1596.871 of the Health and Safety Code, and Section 432.7 of the Labor Code.

(2) Except as authorized under paragraph (1) or any other provision of law, use of any information, for purposes relating to any of the following, and that is disclosed pursuant to this section, is prohibited:

- (A) Health insurance.
- (B) Insurance.
- (C) Loans.
- (D) Credit.
- (E) Employment.
- (F) Education, scholarships, or fellowships.
- (G) Housing or accommodations.
- (H) Benefits, privileges, or services provided by any business establishment.

(3) (A) Any use of information disclosed pursuant to this section for purposes other than those provided by paragraph (1) of subdivision (e) or in violation of





paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) shall make the user liable for the actual damages, and any amount that may be determined by a jury or a court sitting without a jury, not exceeding three times the amount of actual damage, and not less than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250), and attorney's fees, exemplary damages, or a civil penalty not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).

(B) Whenever there is reasonable cause to believe that any person or group of persons is engaged in a pattern or practice of misuse of the "900" telephone number in violation of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e), the Attorney General, any district attorney, or city attorney, or any person aggrieved by the misuse of that number is authorized to bring a civil action in the appropriate court requesting preventive relief, including an application for a permanent or temporary injunction, restraining order, or other order against the person or group of persons responsible for the pattern or practice of misuse. The foregoing remedies shall be independent of any other remedies or procedures that may be available to an aggrieved party under other provisions of law, including Part 2 (commencing with Section 43) of Division 1 of the Civil Code.

(f) This section shall not be deemed to authorize the publication, distribution, or disclosure of the address of any person about whom information can be published, distributed, or disclosed pursuant to this section.

(g) Community notification shall be governed by subdivisions (m) and (n) of Section 290.

(h) The Department of Justice shall submit to the Legislature an annual report on the operation of the "900" telephone number required by paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) on July 1, 1996, July 1, 1997, and July 1, 1998. The annual report shall include all of the following:

(1) Number of calls received.

(2) Amount of income earned per year through operation of the "900" telephone number.

(3) A detailed outline of the amount of money expended and the manner in which it was expended for purposes of this section.

(4) Number of calls that resulted in an affirmative response and the number of calls that resulted in a negative response with regard to whether a named individual was listed pursuant to subdivision (a).

(5) Number of persons listed pursuant to subdivision (a).

(6) A summary of the success of the “900” telephone number program based upon selected factors.

(i) Any law enforcement agency and employees of law enforcement agencies shall be immune from liability for good faith conduct under this section. For the purposes of this section, “law enforcement agency” means the Attorney General, any district attorney, and any state agency expressly authorized by statute to investigate or prosecute law violators.

(j) On or before July 1, 2000, the Department of Justice shall make a report to the Legislature concerning the changes to the operation of the “900” telephone number program made by the amendments to this section by Chapter 908 of the Statutes of 1996. The report shall include all of the following:

(1) Number of calls received by county.

(2) Number of calls that resulted in an affirmative response and the number of calls that resulted in a negative response with regard to whether a named individual was listed pursuant to subdivision (a).

(3) Number of persons listed pursuant to subdivision (a).

(4) Statistical information concerning prosecutions of persons for misuse of the “900” telephone number program, including the outcomes of those prosecutions.

(5) A summary of the success of the “900” telephone number based upon selected factors.

(k) The registration and public notification provisions of this section are applicable to every person described in these sections, without regard to when his or her crimes were committed or his or her duty to register pursuant to this section arose, and to every offense described in these sections, regardless of when it was committed.



(l) No later than December 31, 1998, the Department of Justice shall prepare an informational pamphlet that shall be mailed to any member of the public who makes an inquiry using the “900” telephone number required by this section and who provides an address. The pamphlet shall provide basic information concerning appropriate steps parents, guardians, and other responsible adults can take to ensure a child is safe from a suspected child molester, including, but not limited to, how to identify suspicious activity by an adult, common facts and myths about child molesters, and how to obtain additional help and information. A notice to callers to the “900” telephone number that they will receive the pamphlet, if an address is provided, shall be included in the preamble required by this section.

(m) This section shall remain operative only until January 1, 2001, and as of that date is repealed unless a later enacted statute, which becomes effective on or before that date, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 2. Section 3003.5 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

3003.5. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, when a person is released on parole after having served a term of imprisonment in state prison for any offense for which registration is required pursuant to Section 290, that person may not, during the period of parole, reside in any single family dwelling with any other person also required to register pursuant to Section 290, unless those persons are legally related by blood, marriage, or adoption. For purposes of this section, “single family dwelling” shall not include a residential facility which serves six or fewer persons.



Approved \_\_\_\_\_, 1998

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*Governor*

